

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Childhood
Office of Special Education

First Steps SPOE Data Quarterly Report

December 2025

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Database as of 12/20/2025

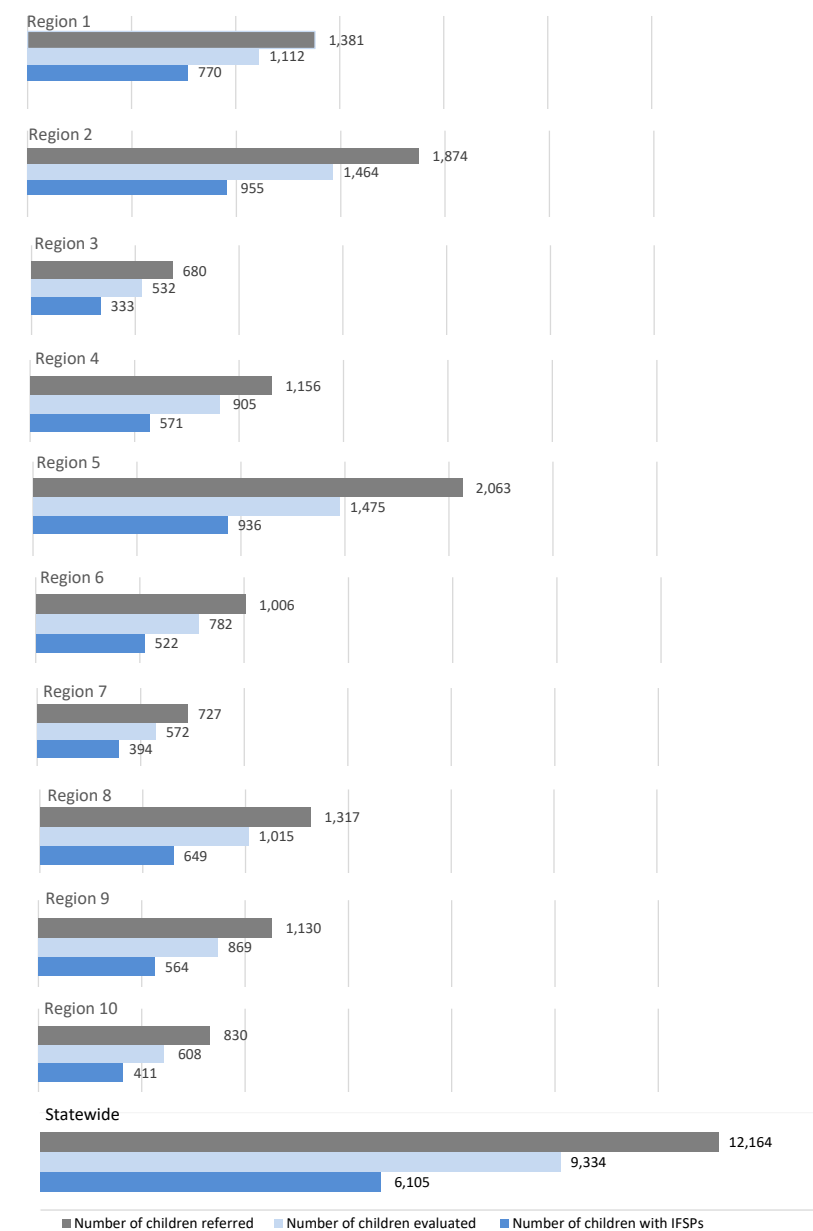
<https://dese.mo.gov/childhood/early-intervention/first-steps>

**Number of Unduplicated Referrals, Number of Children Evaluated, and IFSP
Unduplicated Referrals During Last 12 months (November 2024 to October 2025)**

SPOE	Category	Number/Rate
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)	Number of children referred	1,381
	Number of children evaluated	1,112
	Number of children with IFSPs	770
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	69.2%
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)	Number of children referred	1,874
	Number of children evaluated	1,464
	Number of children with IFSPs	955
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	65.2%
Northeast (Reg. 3)	Number of children referred	680
	Number of children evaluated	532
	Number of children with IFSPs	333
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	62.6%
Northwest (Reg. 4)	Number of children referred	1,156
	Number of children evaluated	905
	Number of children with IFSPs	571
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	63.1%
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)	Number of children referred	2,063
	Number of children evaluated	1,475
	Number of children with IFSPs	936
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	63.5%
Central (Reg. 6)	Number of children referred	1,006
	Number of children evaluated	782
	Number of children with IFSPs	522
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	66.8%
Southwest (Reg. 7)	Number of children referred	727
	Number of children evaluated	572
	Number of children with IFSPs	394
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	68.9%
South Central (Reg. 8)	Number of children referred	1,317
	Number of children evaluated	1,015
	Number of children with IFSPs	649
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	63.9%
East Central (Reg. 9)	Number of children referred	1,130
	Number of children evaluated	869
	Number of children with IFSPs	564
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	64.9%
Southeast (Reg. 10)	Number of children referred	830
	Number of children evaluated	608
	Number of children with IFSPs	411
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	67.6%
Statewide	Number of children referred	12,164
	Number of children evaluated	9,334
	Number of children with IFSPs	6,105
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	65.4%

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals.

**Comparison of Number of Unduplicated Referrals, Children Evaluated,
and Children with IFSPs by SPOE and Statewide**



Primary Referral Sources and IFSP Eligibility Rates Over Last 12 Months

Referrals Include Multiple Referrals Per Child

SPOE	Medical Providers	Social Service Agencies	Early Childhood Programs	Parent
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	817	74	163	662
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	348	26	72	399
IFSP Rate	42.6%	35.1%	44.2%	60.3%
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,234	93	168	988
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	480	29	55	497
IFSP Rate	38.9%	31.2%	32.7%	50.3%
Northeast (Reg. 3)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	528	46	119	158
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	232	19	41	80
IFSP Rate	43.9%	41.3%	34.5%	50.6%
Northwest (Reg. 4)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	752	76	117	490
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	316	15	44	245
IFSP Rate	42.0%	19.7%	37.6%	50.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,352	169	223	842
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	517	28	84	418
IFSP Rate	38.2%	16.6%	37.7%	49.6%
Central (Reg. 6)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	809	85	129	291
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	331	23	54	165
IFSP Rate	40.9%	27.1%	41.9%	56.7%
Southwest (Reg. 7)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	448	69	137	235
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	200	25	64	144
IFSP Rate	44.6%	36.2%	46.7%	61.3%
South Central (Reg. 8)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	820	201	253	404
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	354	41	99	238
IFSP Rate	43.2%	20.4%	39.1%	58.9%
East Central (Reg. 9)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	687	128	162	439
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	285	28	87	232
IFSP Rate	41.5%	21.9%	53.7%	52.8%
Southeast (Reg. 10)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	648	93	1,570	217
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	265	24	649	121
IFSP Rate	40.9%	25.8%	41.3%	55.8%
Grand Total - Primary Referrals (last 12 months)	8,095	1,034	1,570	4,726
Grand Total - Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	3,328	258	649	2,539
IFSP Rate for Each Referral Source	41.1%	25.0%	41.3%	53.7%
% by Source - Statewide	52.5%	6.7%	10.2%	30.6%

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals.

IFSP counts are unduplicated

Medical Providers include Hospital (other than NICU), Physician (inc. Psych.), Other health care provider, Public Health Facilities/Providers, and NICU.

Social Service Agencies include DMH, DHSS, CAPTA, Homeless Family Shelters, Domestic Violence Shelters/Agencies, and Social Service Agency (inc Foster Care).

Early Childhood Programs include Parents as Teachers, Head Start/Early Head Start, Other LEA program, Child Care Program/Provider, and MSD/MSB.

Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Program Eligibility

		Dev. Delay - Half Age	Dev. Delay - ICO*	Medical Condition/Medical Condition - ICO*	Very Low Birth Weight	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	572	140	268	120	1,100
	Percent	52.0%	12.7%	24.5%	10.9%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	845	180	257	193	1,475
	Percent	57.3%	12.2%	20.6%	13.1%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	328	21	119	57	525
	Percent	62.5%	4.0%	31.9%	10.9%	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	542	37	139	36	754
	Percent	71.9%	4.9%	19.2%	4.8%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	833	15	266	138	1,252
	Percent	66.5%	1.2%	22.0%	11.0%	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	534	24	169	94	821
	Percent	65.0%	2.9%	26.4%	11.4%	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	353	54	80	35	522
	Percent	67.6%	10.3%	18.0%	6.7%	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	593	76	152	63	884
	Percent	67.1%	8.6%	19.0%	7.1%	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	583	31	182	96	892
	Percent	65.4%	3.5%	24.1%	10.8%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	451	23	128	46	648
	Percent	69.6%	3.5%	21.3%	7.1%	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	5,634	601	1,760	878	8,873
	Percent	63.5%	6.8%	19.8%	9.9%	100.0%

* Informed Clinical Opinion (ICO)

Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Setting*

		Home	Community Setting	Total Natural Environment Setting	Other**	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	960	127	1,087	5	1,092
	Percent	87.9%	11.6%	99.5%	0.5%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	1,243	210	1,453	6	1,459
	Percent	85.2%	14.4%	99.6%	0.4%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	455	66	521	1	522
	Percent	87.2%	12.6%	99.8%	0.2%	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	679	63	742	0	742
	Percent	91.5%	8.5%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	1,149	87	1,236	1	1,237
	Percent	92.9%	7.0%	99.9%	0.1%	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	733	83	816	0	816
	Percent	89.8%	10.2%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	458	61	519	0	519
	Percent	88.2%	11.8%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	734	139	873	0	873
	Percent	84.1%	15.9%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	807	64	871	6	877
	Percent	92.0%	7.3%	99.3%	0.7%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	555	89	644	0	644
	Percent	86.2%	13.8%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	7,773	989	8,762	19	8,781
	Percent	88.5%	11.3%	99.8%	0.2%	100.0%

*Does not include children with meetings in ongoing status.

** Other includes Special Purpose Center, Hospital, Residential Facility, and Service Provider Location.

Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Race

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Total % of Pop	5.05%	4.82%	4.46%	3.79%	3.68%	4.47%	3.83%	3.83%	4.68%	4.59%	4.30%
Asian and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander*											
% of Pop.	4.12%	3.11%	4.08%	3.23%	3.01%	2.07%	1.36%	2.01%	2.76%	3.06%	2.98%
Black or African American**											
% of Pop.	5.65%	5.37%	6.37%	4.26%	3.51%	5.52%	5.52%	3.50%	6.38%	5.30%	4.86%
White											
% of Pop.	4.79%	4.59%	4.32%	3.72%	3.86%	4.35%	3.85%	3.89%	4.56%	4.48%	4.21%
Native American or Alaska Native											
% of Pop.	7.87%	6.36%	0.00%	2.59%	0.00%	2.35%	0.83%	4.20%	1.85%	0.00%	2.27%

*Census data (2023 US Census Estimates) combines race categories Asian & Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.

**Children with two or more races are included in the Black percent of population.

Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Ethnicity

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	85	122	19	98	235	68	90	77	62	46	902
Under 3 Pop.	1,710	2,079	540	2,057	5,958	1,362	1,978	1,628	1,040	794	19,146
% of Pop.	4.97%	5.87%	3.52%	4.76%	3.94%	4.99%	4.55%	4.73%	5.96%	5.79%	4.71%
NOT Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	1,015	1,353	506	656	1,017	753	432	807	830	602	7,971
Under 3 Pop.	20,091	28,507	11,221	17,847	28,031	17,005	11,651	21,429	18,014	13,338	187,134
% of Pop.	5.05%	4.75%	4.51%	3.68%	3.63%	4.43%	3.71%	3.77%	4.61%	4.51%	4.26%

Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP, Last 12 Months

SPOE	Child Deceased	Completion of IFSP	Moved Out of State	Parent Withdrawn/ Withdrawn due to FCP	Pt B Elig in Process	Pt B Inelig Exit to Other/Pt B Inelig Exit w/o Ref	Pt B Ref Refused Parent	Transition to Part B	Unable to Contact/ Locate	Grand Total
Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	0.4%	2.4%	3.7%	14.9%	2.6%	15.4%	7.8%	46.5%	6.1%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Region 2)	0.4%	3.2%	2.6%	13.8%	3.4%	11.6%	7.4%	47.6%	9.9%	100.0%
Northeast (Region 3)	0.8%	0.0%	2.7%	19.2%	3.5%	13.3%	8.5%	48.8%	3.2%	100.0%
Northwest (Region 4)	0.3%	0.7%	3.5%	23.2%	3.2%	9.9%	7.6%	48.7%	2.9%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	0.4%	1.3%	5.9%	16.2%	2.0%	7.9%	8.8%	51.7%	6.0%	100.0%
Central (Region 6)	0.3%	0.2%	4.4%	15.6%	3.7%	13.5%	8.3%	49.3%	4.6%	100.0%
Southwest (Region 7)	0.0%	10.3%	3.7%	14.2%	4.8%	8.2%	9.6%	45.2%	4.1%	100.0%
South Central (Region 8)	0.4%	0.6%	4.0%	23.5%	4.3%	11.2%	10.2%	41.7%	4.1%	100.0%
East Central (Region 9)	0.4%	1.3%	5.0%	16.6%	1.2%	11.9%	9.2%	50.1%	4.3%	100.0%
Southeast (Region 10)	0.6%	1.1%	4.4%	16.9%	3.4%	15.3%	12.1%	40.0%	6.1%	100.0%
Statewide %	0.4%	2.0%	4.1%	17.1%	3.1%	11.7%	8.7%	47.4%	5.6%	100.0%

Percentage = Inactivation Reason/Total for each SPOE

Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP can include multiple enrollment periods for one child.